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THE TABLET.

No. LXXXIV.

(Continued from the laſt Number.)

"Every ſituation in life has pleaſures and pains peculiar to itſelf; but the moſt unfailing fountain of happineſs is open alike to all men."

THE happieſt man I ever knew was a perſon who every day of his life formed deluſive expectations, and never once ſucceeded in a plan he undertook. To miſcarry in a moſt material point of buſineſs made ſlight impreſſions on him, becauſe his anticipations were always awake, and his mind was more habituated to indulge new proſpects, than to repine at paſt misfortunes. His neighbors viewed him with a mixture of ridicule and pity. Such bitter diſappointments, they ſuppoſed muſt make him unhappy, and ſuch unreaſonable hopes could not but expoſe him to deriſion. In ſhort his misfortunes produced complaint from every body but himſelf, and he was miſerable in every eſtimation but his own. From this run of remarks I would infer that we are too apt to exaggerate imaginary evils, and to ſuppoſe people more unhappy in many reſpects, that they really are.

It is a queſtion that deſerves enquiry, whether we generally anticipate more pleaſure from any object than it affords when we poſſeſs it? The common opinion of mankind is, that the imagination overates approaching ſcenes of gratification. We ſhould not two haſtily adopt ſuch an opinion. The reverſe more uſually happens, and we derive more happineſs from gratifying our wiſhes than was expected. People form their ideas on this ſubject, by examining their feelings when the enjoyment is over; and comparing the ſenſations of ſatiety with the impulſes of hope, they give the preference to the latter. But the fact is, the enjoyments of the ſcene itſelf was more delightful than either.

We ſhould make a diſtinction between the pleaſures of ſenſe and thoſe of the imagination. The gratification of natural appetites never affords leſs delight than we anticipate. A man pinched with hunger or cold, does not exaggerate, in his imagination, the pleaſure he derives in being relieved from his diſtreſs. A traveller, performing a journey in rough, tempeſtuous weather, conſoles himſelf with the proſpect of meeting at night with a commodious inn, where he will find a warm room and comfortable refreſhment. He mitigates no doubt the tedious hours of the day, in looking forward to the pleaſing ſcenes of the evening; but I appeal to his fellow traveller, whether his ſpirits are not more briſk, when he is enjoying thoſe comforts, than while he was anticipating them.

Artificial ſources of pleaſure, however may often prove deluſive. Men who flatter themſelves that a ſuperb houſe, elegant gardens, a carriage and livery ſervants will add eſſentially to their happineſs, are under the influence of a miſtake. Their anticipations are too lively, and the object when they attain it, will not yield the delight that was imagined. There is no reaſon in nature, why a perſon ſhould feel any exquiſite ſatisfaction in riding in a chariot to church; and gratifications of this kind ſoon loſe their reliſh.

Providence has ſo managed the cauſes that contribute to happineſs, that all claſſes of people may attain a proportion. To relieve the wants and gratify the deſires which nature has formed, afford more genuine and univerſal ſatisfaction than can well be created by the allurements of caprice and fancy. The appearance of the ſun, when it has been, ſeveral days, hidden in the clouds, has afforded more real delight to the human race, than all the elegance and ſplendor that artifice can deviſe. Refreſhing ſhowers after the earth has long been parched with drought has yielded more pleaſing ſenſations, than can be enjoyed by all the gratifications that wealth can purchaſe or power command.

Mankind ſhould not indulge a temper of complaint. Happineſs is dealt out in more equal portions, and depends more on cauſes within our reach, than is commonly ſuppoſed. It cannot be material, whether imaginary objects of pleaſure are greateſt in anticipation or in poſſeſſion. Whatever delight they afford is ſo much clear gain. We ſhould make the moſt of our ſituation, and not repine becauſe it is not different.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE REPUBLICAN.

No.—II.

EVERY ſociety of men muſt be reſtrained by ſome coercive regulations; and every form of government muſt be founded on certain general maxims. According to the celebrated *Monteſquieu*, Fear is the ſpring of action in a Deſpotic form; Honour in a Monarchy, and Virtue in a Republic. This is a plauſible theory; but like many others, though beautiful on paper, it is utterly fallacious in practice. Human nature is ſo ſelfiſh and corrupt, that the legiſlator who depends on virtue alone for the ſupport of a Republican ſyſtem, builds upon a foundation of ſand. More permanent and operative principles are neceſſary. The common participation of all denominations of citizens in the honours, emoluments and burthens of ſociety; as equal a diſtribution of property, as the abilities and exertions of individuals will permit; and above all a general diffuſion of knowledge among the body of the people, are main pillars in the edifice of a laſting republic. A people well inſtructed in their rights, are neceſſarily furniſhed with the means of preſerving them. Their liberties cannot be taken from them, without the abſurd ſuppoſition of their own conſent, which would be a kind of political ſuicide. Mankind have been too long governed or rather enſlaved by means of their hopes, their fears and other paſſions. But we have reaſon to be thankful that experience has effected a happy change of meaſures. In this enlightened age and country the laws begin, as they ought, to be addreſſed to the ſober reaſon of the ſubjects. To fit them for ſuch a rational government, every uſeful branch of knowledge ſhould be encouraged by our federal and ſtate legiſlatures. The Preſident's recommendation of this ſubject, in his late official ſpeech to Congreſs, is worthy of that great friend to the rights of mankind. He urges a legiſlative patronage of education with his uſual candour and diſcernment. His reaſons appear to be altogether ſatisfactory; and I truſt will meet with the concurrence of both houſes of Congreſs, as well as the hearty approbation of the public. As the Preſidont did not think proper to deſcend to particulars, they are left to the good ſenſe of the ſenators and repreſentatives. To encourage literature, without interfering ſo far as to controul and ſhackle it, would be an undertaking becoming our national rulers. With deference I would ſuggeſt the propriety of founding a federal profeſſorſhip of *hiſtory*, *government* and *juriſprudence* in each of the univerſities of the United States. The profeſſors might be appointed either by the Preſident of the United States, or by the truſtees of the reſpective univerſities, as ſhould be judged moſt proper. Their lectures might explain the general rights and liberties of men; the hiſtory of ancient and modern times, eſpecially of our own country, and more particularly the grand American revolution, including the riſe and progreſs of the various political eſtabliſhments in the ſeveral ſtates and the general confederacy. As the pupils annually retire from the univerſities, mix with the maſs of citizens, and many of them engage in the inſtruction of ſubordinate ſchools or other uſeful employments, they will carry their knowledge with them into life, and diffuſe it far and wide among all ranks of people. And thus the whole community will receive a ſalutary influence from ſuch inſtitutions. Surely the ſalaries which would be neceſſary to engage competent profeſſors, would be money expended to the advantage of the public.

EXTRACT,

From Governor Hancock's ſpeech to the Legiſlature of the State of Maſſachuſetts. January 19, 1790.

IT would be very extraordinary if we, as a nation, ſhould remain exempted from thoſe foreign or domeſtic troubles, with which other nations are frequently viſited. Notwithſtanding a general Government is well eſtabliſhed by the free conſent of the people, we are to continue to ſupport our own government, with unabating anxiety for its welfare and proſperity: Indeed, the general Government of the United States is founded in an aſſemblage of Republican Governments; and it depends eſſentially on theſe, not only for its dignity and energy, but for its very exiſtence in the form it now poſſeſſes; therefore, whatever is done to ſupport the Commonwealth, has a tendency to advance the intereſt and honor of all the States. Hence we are called upon in an eſpecial manner, to maintain an equal and regular ſyſtem of revenue and taxation, to ſupport the faith, and to perform the engagements of our Republick; to arm and cauſe our Militia to be diſciplined according to the mode which ſhall be provided by Congreſs; and to ſee that they are officered with men, who are capable of making the greateſt progreſs in the art military, and who delight in the freedom and happineſs of their country. A well regulated and diſciplined Militia, is at all times a good objection to the introduction of that bane of all free governments—a ſtanding Army.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 27, 1790.

THE order of the day for the conſideration of the bill for giving effect to the laws of the United States in the ſtate of North-Carolina, was taken up, and the bill paſſed to be enacted.

The bill for the remiſſion or mitigation of fines, forfeitures and penalties in certain caſes, was read the ſecond time. Ordered, that it be referred to a committee of the whole houſe, to be taken into conſideration on Wedneſday next, and that 100 copies be printed.

In committee of the whole, on the bill to provide the means of intercourſe between the United States and foreign nations; the motion before the committee yeſterday, for ſtriking out of Mr. Lee's propoſed amendment, the words, "by and with the advice and conſent of the ſenate," was again read.

Mr. Jackſon objected to the principle of the bill, as tending to eſtabliſh arbitrary power—as diveſting the ſenate of their prerogative—as relinquiſhing the controul of the Houſe over the Treaſury of the United States. Beſides, he contended that it is the duty of the Houſe to fix the ſalaries, and this he conceived the legiſlature fully competent to. The diſpoſal of the public money is a truſt committed to us, nor can we conſtitutionally diveſt ourſelves of it.

Mr. Boudinot was oppoſed to the amendment, and in favor of ſtriking out the words, and contended that the bill went to make all thoſe proviſions as fully as the nature of the caſe would permit, which gentlemen appeared ſo earneſtly to contend for.

The bill empowers the Preſident to draw out of the public treaſury a ſpecified ſum, it has alſo determined a point beyond which the ſalaries ſhall not extend; all the power propoſed to be veſted in the Preſident, is to reduce the ſalaries, and to diſpoſe of the appropriation to the beſt advantage. This cannot be conſidered an extraordinary or unconſtitutional truſt; it is agreeable to the uniform uſage of the Houſe in making appropriations where any truſt is repoſed. It is eaſy to foreſee inſuperable difficulties in aſſociating the ſenate with the Preſident in this buſineſs.

Mr. Scott aſked whether the queſtion was of a legiſlative or executive nature—for his part he thought it of a legiſlative nature; and therefore granting any power to appropriate the public money for purpoſes where the houſe could not aſcertain the quantum neceſſary, was acting contrary to the conſtitution. It was improper he ſaid that either the Preſident or ſenate, or both, ſhould expend money for any ſervices, the amount of which could not be fixed by law. He was therefore wholly oppoſed to the principle of the bill, and moved that the committee ſhould riſe, for the purpoſe of introducing a motion in the houſe to re-commit it.

Mr. Sedgwick obſerved that if a diſcretionary power cannot be lodged with any perſon to determine what ſums ſhall be paid for particular ſervices, it is difficult to conceive how the public buſineſs can be carried on. He was ſure he ſaid, there was nothing in the Conſtitution againſt the delegation of ſuch a power—and in fact conſtant experience was directly oppoſed to the poſition.

Mr. Smith (S. C.) purſuing the idea of Mr. Sedgwick adverted to the circumſtance of voting 20,000 dollars the laſt ſeſſion for the Indian buſineſs—it is true the compenſations of the Commiſioners was fixed—but *their* allowance, abſorbed but a ſmall proportion of the ſum committed in truſt to the Preſident and Senate of the United States.

Mr. Lawrance oppoſed the motion for the committee's riſing—he wiſhed the committee to come to a deciſion of the queſtion, whether the Senate ſhould be aſſociated with the Preſident in this buſineſs or not—he adverted to the conſtant practice of the Houſe in reſpect to the heads of departments, who from the neceſſity of the caſe are conſtantly truſted with appropriations which it is true they may not exceed, but without particularly ſpecifying the ſums they ſhall pay for certain ſervices.—He wiſhed the gentleman would withdraw his motion.

Mr. Boudinot was likewiſe oppoſed to the riſing of the committee, and enlarged upon the ideas ſuggeſted by Mr. Lawrance, and Mr Smith.

Mr. Scott defended his motion,—he ſaid that ſervices performed in the public offices are known and open to examination; but that might not be the caſe with the preſent buſineſs; that as the bill ſtands it militates againſt the conſtitution; that conſideration would influence him not to withdraw his motion for the riſing of the committee.

The motion for the committee's riſing was negatived.

The motion for ſtriking out of the propoſed amendment the words "by and with the advice and conſent of the ſenate," was put and carried in the affirmative.

The queſtion then was, on the propoſed amendment without the words 'by and with the advice and conſent of the ſenate," the vote being taken the amendment was not adopted.

Mr. Lawrance propoſed an additional clauſe for limitting the duration of the bill to the term of three years, and from thence to the end of the next ſeſſion of Congreſs thereafter.

It was moved that the clauſe which enjoins that the accounts of expenditures be rendered under oath, ſhould be ſtruck out.

Mr. Sedgwick was in favor of retaining the words;—there could no injury ariſe from their being retained in the bill; they may conduce to the public ſatisfaction.—In the diſpoſition of public monies, caſes will frequently occur in which a confidence in the integrity of public officers, may be all the ſatisfaction the people may receive in the diſpoſal of their money. It is not to be expected that the formality of an oath is to be attended to, the idea meant to be conveyed is that the accounts are rendered under the impreſſion of ſuch a ſolemnity.

Mr. Huntington, Mr. Wadſworth and Mr. Ames were ſeverally in favor of the motion for ſtriking out the words.—It was obſerved that they involved an abſurdity, except gentlemen ſuppoſed it neceſſary that the Preſident ſhould take his oath of office *de novo*.

The words reſpecting the oath were ſtruck out.

A motion of Mr. Madiſon's, that the Preſident cauſe a regular ſtatement of the account of expenditures to be laid before Congreſs, occaſioned ſome further converſation—This motion was adopted.

The whole paragraph as thus amended, was then agreed to.

The motion for the limitation of the bill was next diſcuſſed—It was moved that *three* be ſtruck out before "years" and *two* inſerted—This motion obtained.

The clauſe thus amended was adopted.

The committee then roſe reported the bill with amendments—to which the Houſe acceded—and ordered that the bill be engroſſed for a third reading to-morrow.

Mr. Lee called the attention of the Houſe to the petition of Mr. Dobbyn—and after ſomeobſervations on the policy of encouraging the emigration of foreigners, and the population of the unappropriated territory of the United States, moved that the petition of Mr. Dobbyn be referred to the Secretary of the Treaſury—that he may make proviſion in the plan which he is directed to report to the Houſe, for caſes ſimilar to that of the petitioner—Mr. Madiſon and Mr. Page ſupported this motion.

Mr. Sherman moved that the latter part of the motion ſhould be ſtruck out, and that if the petition is referred to the Secretary of the Treaſury, it ſhould be by way of information.

It was ſaid that there is an impropriety in reſtraining the Secretary to any particular object, in forming the plan in contemplation, as it muſt be calculated on general principles, the Houſe having ſpecial referrence to the ſubject of revenue in committing the buſineſs to him—It was further ſaid that the propriety of the Legiſlature of the United States holding out encouragement to individuals of foreign States, to emigrate to this country may be doubted.

Mr. Sherman's motion was adopted, and the petition referred to the Secretary of the Treaſury for his information.

Mr. Sherman preſented a petition from the Preſident and Fellows of Yale College, ſtating that they had imported a philoſophical apparatus for that College, the impoſt duties of which they had paid; and ſuggeſted to Congreſs whether, as books and ſcientific inſtruments for the uſe of ſeminaries of learning could not come under the denomination of negociable articles of merchandize, it would not tend to encourage ſcience, were ſuch articles exempted from duties, and praying that the amount of the duties paid on ſaid apparatus, may be remitted for the uſe of ſaid college.

Mr. Ames preſented the petition of John Wait, praying relief under loſſes ſuſtained by taking certificates for ſupplies from ſoldiers who afterwards deſerted—Read and laid on the table.

The Houſe took up the reſolution laid on the table yeſterday by Mr. Smith (S. C.) reſpecting the unfiniſhed buſineſs at the end of a ſeſſion.

Some debate enſued, but the Houſe adjourned without coming to any deciſion on the motion.

☞ In our laſt, Mr HARTLEY's obſervation on Adjournments and Prorogations, was miſtated: His ideas are expreſſed in the following, viz.——"After ſpeaking of a former motion he "had offered upon this ſubject—He made a diſtinction between "Prorogation and Adjournment in England: The firſt was the "act of the firſt Magiſtrate, the King, and all unfiniſhed buſineſs "was diſmiſſed by it. But on the laſt, which was ſome times the "concurrent act of the ſeveral branches of the Legiſlature, at other "times the act of one or both Houſes of Parliament, the buſineſs "is preſerved in the ſame ſtate it was left, and need not be taken "up de novo."

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28.

The bill for making compenſation to perſons employed in the intercourſe between the United States and foreign nations, was brought in, engroſſed, and read the third time.

Mr. Sherman moved, that the bill ſhould lie on the table. He thought the ſum of forty thouſand dollars too much for the purpoſes ſpecified in the bill, and that the houſe had no meaſure at preſent whereby they could aſcertain the ſums neceſſary to be appropriated.

This motion was carried in the affirmative.

This being the day aſſigned by the houſe for taking up the Report of the Secretary of the Treaſury relative to a proviſion for the ſupport of the public credit—Mr. Ames introduced the buſineſs by ſaying, that he apprehended, ſufficient time had not yet been allowed for the members to prepare themſelves for the diſcuſſion of a ſubject of ſuch intricacy and magnitude—he therefore moved that the order of the day be poſtponed to next Monday week.

Mr. Jackſon—This report, Sir, refers to matters of the higheſt importance, which ought not to be haſtily taken up.—There appears to be two great objects in view—One of them is to deſtroy all idea of diſcrimination between the original creditors, and the ſpeculators in ſecurities—the other is to make a general proviſion for the State debts. I was formerly in the ſame opinion with the Secretary reſpecting the firſt—but I am now almoſt a convert to a contrary opinion; and this in conſequence of the ſpeculations I have ſeen carried on ſince the report made its appearance, which are now ſo extended as would make even a Haſtings bluſh.—Since the publication of this report three veſſels have ſailed from this place for the ſouthward with large ſums in ſpecie, to purchaſe up the public ſecurities of the States of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.—With reſpect to the conſolidation of the State debts, ſome of the States may be againſt it—at leaſt I think it neceſſary that we ſhould know the ſentiments of the State Legiſlatures, as well as thoſe of the individual citizens on the ſubject. Without this information we ſhall be going on in the dark—and as this information cannot be gained by Monday week, we ſhall then be as much in the dark as at preſent. I therefore wiſh that the conſideration of the buſineſs may be put off to the firſt of May, by which time there is a probability of our obtaining ſome degree of information.

Mr. Boudinot acknowledged that a great number of ſpeculators were injurious to the community. But the object of the report is to leſſen the number, by appreciating and fixing the value of the public debt; therefore the ſooner that is accompliſhed, the better. He was not for defering it to a diſtant day.

Mr. Stone ſaid the buſineſs was entirely new, and that the ſucceſs of it would much depend upon unanimity. He confeſſed he wanted to know the opinion of the continent upon it. If it would bring money, he ſaid, in to the treaſury, he ſhould be for adopting it immediately; but as he did not expect that, he ſhould be for poſtponing it for ſome time.

Mr. Sherman made ſome obſervations on the debts of the States, and of the United States—as for collecting the opinions of the people at large, there would probably be, he ſaid, as many opinions as perſons. He wiſned to take up the matter as ſpeedily as poſſible.

Mr. Hartley was againſt poſtponing.

Mr. Sedgwick ſaid, that ſome delay was neceſſary for underſtanding the ſubject properly. But to prevent ſpeculation and a corruption of morals, he wiſhed to enter upon it ſpeedily.

Mr. Gerry ſaid he was in favor of a poſtponement, tho not for ſo long a time as the gentleman from Georgia propoſed—but as the ſubject was of ſuch magnitude, and all the States now in the Union were ſo deeply intereſted, he ſuppoſed it beſt to wait for the North Carolina delegation.

With reſpect to preventing ſpeculations in the funds, it cannot be ſuppoſed, ſaid he, that taking up the buſineſs at the preſent moment will conduce to that object—and if it would I cannot ſee what advantage would accrue to the public.—I do not conceive that ſpeculating in the funds ought to be conſidered in an unfavorable point of light.—While the country has a debt, it will be ſpeculated in—I believe there never was a country which had a debt, in which ſpeculations did not obtain—and indeed they are ſo far from being injurious, that they prove a great convenience—by giving a currency to property which would otherwiſe lay dormant.—No debts in ſhort can be contracted, but upon terms that muſt prove ruinous to the debtors, except on a principle of negociation—In this view it may be ſaid, that the evils which would have been derived from the great debt of this country, have been in a great meaſure alleviated. He then adverted to the ſpeculations of foreigners—and, referring to the debt of Great Britain, ſaid that in the laſt war the Dutch were ſuppoſed to be proprietors in the Engliſh funds, to the amount of forty millions ſterling—this was not conſidered as a diſadvantage, on the other hand it was ſuppoſed to be a great ſource of emolument to the nation—and at the moment of peace, the enormous debt of the nation, which had encreaſed an hundred million—was one cauſe of the greateſt influx of ſpecie that had ever been known. He concluded his obſervations by wiſhing the conſideration of the report might be poſtponed till the repreſentation from North Carolina ſhould arrive.

Mr. Jackſon in ſupport of the motion for poſtponement, enlarged fully on the pernicious conſequences of the ſpeculation in the public ſecurities—and traced thoſe conſequences through a variety of channels, he pathetically deſcribed the ſituation of the officers and ſoldiers of the late army, who had been obliged through neceſſity to part with the crtificates fora trifling conſideration.—He lamented the ſpeculations that had taken place in conſequence of the promulgation of the Secretary's plan, & regretted that Congreſs was not now ſituated on the Suſquehanna or Potomack, where the deliberations on the ſubject might have been kept ſecret, as he thought that the evils of ſpeculation owed their riſe in a great meaſure from Congreſs' holding their ſeſſions in a populous city—He thought that Congreſs ſhould ſuſpend all conſideration of an aſſumption of the State debts, till the ſenſe of the ſeveral Legiſlatures on the ſubject was known—and at any rate he hoped that Congreſs would at preſent confine their deliberations to that part of the debt called final ſettlements or the domeſtic debt of the United States.—He concluded by moving that the conſideration of the report of the Secretary of the Treaſury be poſtponed to April.

Mr. Boudinot reprobated the idea of a poſtponement to ſo diſtant a day. He touched on the ſubject of ſpeculation, and ſaid, that it might be carried too far, and it might be confined to too narrow limits—but with reſpect to the idea at large, it was impoſſible to prevent it—that the only way to reſtrain, or bring within proper bounds this ſpirit, is for Congreſs to come to ſome determination reſpecting the debt, by which means it will acquire a permanency. The Houſe by their reſolution the laſt ſeſſion have ſolemnly pledged themſelves to pay early attention to the buſineſs, and to do ſomething for the public creditors.

Mr. Page was for taking up the buſineſs immediately, and reminded the houſe of that part of the Preſident's ſpeech which related to public credit. As for ſecrecy with regard to the report he had no idea of it. He was for openneſs and deciſion. He ſaid, that if ſo diſtant a day ſhould be fixed on, he ſhould move that the houſe adjourn, and the members go home. It is an illuſive idea to think of deferring it—we are bound to begin the buſineſs immediately. Would the genman from Georgia conſult his conſtituents upon every bill that is about to be paſſed?

Mr. Seney moved that the conſideration of the report ſhould be poſtponed to the firſt Monday in March. The ſubject, ſaid he, is of great magnitude—it requires time to make up a judgment upon it—The Legiſlature may derive information from the diſcuſſion it may receive in converſation, and in the public prints—The gentleman's idea of an adjournment appears quite unneceſſary—there is a great variety of buſineſs before the houſe, to employ their attention—mean time the public expectation will ſuffer no diſappointment, as the buſineſs will be in train agreeable to the reſolution of the Houſe the laſt ſeſſion, on which the report of the Secretary of the Treaſury is founded—Nor do I conceive that any time will be loſt, as the members will be more fully prepared to meet the buſineſs.

The queſtion was now put on the firſt Monday in March, and loſt.

Monday week, was then propoſed, which was carried.

A meſſage from the Preſident of the United States by his Secretary, communicating the act of Rhode Iſland for calling a convention—alſo a letter from the Governor of that State to the Preſident, reſpecting a further ſuſpenſion of the collection act, &c.

Theſe papers were refered to a committee conſiſting of Mr. Benſon, Mr. Brown, and Mr. Cole.

Mr. Burke from the committee appointed, brought in a bill for ſecuring to authors and proprietors, the excluſive right to their writings.

Mr. Burke alſo preſented to the houſe a motion, that it be an inſtruction to the committee appointed to bring in a bill for encouraging manufactures, to add a clauſe reſpecting the ſecuring to inventors, the right to their diſcoveries.

This was agreed to.

Mr. Smith's motion which was under conſideration yeſterday was reſumed.

Some obſervations were made relative to its being a joint buſineſs of both Houſes.—Mr. Smith, agreeable to this ſuggeſtion propoſed that the reſolution ſhould be amended ſo as to comprize this idea.

Mr. Livermore objected to the reſolution in its preſent form, he conceived that a ſtrict adherence to any ſuch rule could not be maintained, as a great variery of matters muſt neceſſarily be continued from one ſeſſion to another, he inſtanced petitions, and buſineſs referred to ſpecial committees, which might require a whole receſs for its conſideration.—He adverted to the practice of Congreſs, and of other legiſlative bodies—which

he thought was defenſible.—On the 21ſt. of Sept. laſt, the preſent Congreſs paſſed a reſolution, by virtue of which the Secretary of the Treaſury, had laid before the Houſe, a plan purſuant to that vote—if ſuch a rule as that now propoſed, had exiſted—the Houſe could not take that report into conſideration; but we have taken it up agreeable to cuſtomary uſage.—He concluded by obſerving that if a rule muſt be adopted, the one propoſed is not competent to the deſign, but muſt be enlarged and proper exceptions made.

Mr. White propoſed that proper exceptions might be made—but contended there is a neceſſity for adopting ſome rule.

Mr. Hartley ſaid that as the Houſe could not be ſuppoſed to be prepared to make the neceſſary exceptions, he moved that the reſolution ſhould lie on the table.

Mr. Sedgwick ſeconded the motion, which being put, it was carried in the affirmative.

Mr. White moved that a committee be appointed to enquire into the meaſures taken by Congreſs in the State of Virginia, reſpecting the lands reſerved for the uſe of the officers and ſoldiers of the ſaid State on Continental and State eſtabliſhments, in the ceſſion made by the ſaid State to the United States, of the territory north-weſt of the river Ohio, and to report the ſame to this Houſe.

Mr. White, Mr. Muhlenberg and Mr. Seney, were appointed.

The report of the Secretary at War, on the petition of Capt. Charles Markley, was taken into conſideration.

This report ſtates that he was entitled to half pay for life, agreeable to the time of his leaving the public ſervice, but that there are two reſolves of Congreſs which appear to contravene his claim.

It was moved that the Houſe ſhould accept this report.

This motion was oppoſed, as it would be informal to accept ſpecifically, the report of an executive officer. Such reports are conſidered as matter of information to the Houſe, on which they are to ground a ſubſequent act or reſolution.

Mr. Gerry obſerved that it appeared to him from the Secretary's report, that this officer is entitled to his half pay. He therefore moved that the report ſhould be accepted; and that the Houſe ſhould come to a reſolution, that the two reſolves of Congreſs referred to in the report do not apply to the caſe of the petitioner.

The reſolves were then read.

Mr. Sedgwick ſuggeſted the propriety of appointing a committee to report a ſyſtem for aſcertaining the claims of individuals againſt the United States, and of the United States againſt individuals. He propoſed that this committee ſhould conſiſt of ten members. The adoption of ſuch a ſyſtem might ſave a great deal of time and public expence.

Some obſervations were made on this propoſition. It was then ordered that the report of the Secretary at War ſhould lie on the table.

Adjourned.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29.

The Speaker laid before the Houſe a letter from the Treaſurer of the United States, enclo-ſing accounts of expenditures and diſburſements, purſuant to orders of Congreſs, to the 31ſt Dec. laſt, which were read, and referred to a ſelect committee, conſiſting of Mr. Smith, (S. C.) Mr. Moore, Mr. Smith, (M.) Mr. Clymer, and Mr. Van Ranſellaer.

A meſſage from the Senate was received by their Secretary, informing the Houſe that the Senate has paſſed a bill for the puniſhment of certain crimes againſt the United States—in which they requeſt the concurrence of the Houſe.—He then delivered in the bill and withdrew.

Mr. Gerry preſented a petition of Aaron Putnam of Medford in the State of Maſſachuſetts—ſtating that he had invented a mode of diſtilling ſpirits, which is different from any that had come to his knowledge, and he preſumed is entirely new; and praying that the benefit of his diſcovery may be ſecured to him—Referred to the committee appointed to bring in a bill for ſecuring to inventors the right of their diſcoveries.

A memorial of Roger Alden, was read and referred to a committee conſiſting of Mr. Trumbull, Mr. Baldwin, and Mr. Benſon.

On motion of Mr. Thatcher the petition from the inhabitants of the town of Portland was read a ſecond time, and referred to the Secretary of the Treaſury for his information, who is directed to report thereon to the Houſe.

The bill brought down from the Senate was read.

Mr. Livermore moved that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for the appropriation of ſuch ſum or ſums of money as may be neceſſary for the civil liſt, and the incidental charges of the preſent year.

This motion was adopted, and Mr. Livermore, Mr. Sylveſter and Mr. Lee, were appointed.

Mr. Sedgwick, after ſome introductory obſervations relative to the power of Congreſs to regulate the exports of the United States, propoſed the following reſolution, viz.

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill or bills to encourage the exports of the United States, and to guard againſt frauds in the ſame. Laid on the table.

Mr. Smith, (S. C.) introduced a reſolution to this purport, that the Judges of the Supreme Court be directed to report to the Houſe a plan for regulating the proceſſes in the Federal Courts, and the fees to the Clerks of the ſame.

Laid on the table.

A motion to take up for a third reading the bill providing the means of intercourſe between the United States and foreign nations, was after a ſhort diſcuſſion negatived.

The Houſe then adjourned till Monday 11 o'Clock A. M.

NEW-YORK, JANUARY 30.

"What is every body's buſineſs is no body's buſineſs"—And where every body is worthy of blame, guilt can be affixed to no body.—The exigencies of our country gave riſe to the expedient of paper money—When that had done its office, it paſſed away, by mutual conſent, like the baſeleſs fabric of a viſion.—Not ſo the exigencies of our country; they were too ſubſtantial.—A ſecond expedient became neceſſary—it was adopted in a new ſpecies of paper.—But this would have been *ſtill-born*, had the animating principles of negociation and hope of future payment been wanting—nor would all the paper of the United States have purchaſed the ſolder a biſket, had not a dependence on the country called into circulation the *ſpecie* of the SPECULATORS.

Hence the *firſt* ſpeculators in public ſecurities, who were generally *monied men*, muſt be conſidered as the props of the infant credit of the United States—as they undoubtedly were decided friends to the revolution, who embarked their ALL on the iſſue of the conteſt. COMMON SENSE.

Extract of a letter from Boſton, Jan. 16.

"I never expected that the domeſtic debt of the United States would be funded at a higher intereſt than four per cent. nor could I ſuppoſe that in making proviſion for the debts contracted during the late war, and which are the price of the greateſt and the happieſt revolution that ever marked the page of hiſtory, the debts of the ſeveral States would be placed in a leſs favorable ſituation, than *that* commonly denominated the continental debt—but this will certainly be the caſe, if the great ſources of revenue are diverted into a channel from whence the debts of the ſeveral ſtates are to derive no advantage. It is to the general government that the ſtate creditors muſt now look, as to their only reſource—and ſurely their claims are as well founded, as thoſe of any deſcription of creditors whatever.

I am ſenſible that many perſons have entertained hopes of receiving ſix per cent. intereſt, on their ſecurities, and this is particularly the idea of thoſe, who are clamorous for a diſcrimination between the original holders and thoſe who have *bought* public paper. Theſe perſons ſay that government cannot conſiſtently pay *them* a *leſs* intereſt than that expreſſed on the face of the promiſe; but at the ſame time, they can *very clearly* diſcover the juſtice of a violation of the *ſame promiſe*, expreſſed in the *ſame terms*, which happens to be in the hands of ſome of their neighbors!! Self love ſtrangely blinds people to their own intereſt—for it is very evident that a violation of the public faith in one inſtance, would aſſuredly lead to a violation in the other.

I have ſaid above, that 4 per cent is the higheſt at which I ever expected that government would fund the debt. My reaſons are many, but waving particulars I ſhall mention only two. Firſt, This ſum is about the average of the general expectation of the creditors; and as the Congreſs of the United States have propoſed to lay the foundation of the government in JUSTICE, they will invariably conſider in all their deliberations, that *two parties perfectly equal*, exiſt in all public contracts—and therefore they will undoubtedly pay attention to the general ſentiment—but ſecondly, I conſider 4 per cent. within compaſs of the ability of the United States. The creditors very well know that it will be in vain to expect an intereſt beyond this ability—and tho 4 per cent. will be leſs than the original ſtipulation, yet *realizing* this diminiſhed rate, will induce a moſt cordial reliance on a future indemnification for a temporary loſs."

The queſtion whether the ſeat of the Honorable Jonathan Jackſon in the Senate of Maſſachuſetts, is vacated by his federal appointment as Marſhal of that diſtrict, was determined in the negative by the Senators of that State, the 21ſt inſtant.

Extract of a letter from Long-Iſland to the Editor, hereof.

"I am exceedingly gratified with the Boſton plan of Education with which you have lately favoured us. Nothing can more radically promote the beſt intereſts of ſociety than ſuch attentions from a united public. The efforts of a thouſand individuals to inculcate uſeful knowledge, may probably be leſs productive, than the labours of a very few in this compacted ſyſtem. It will contribute greatly to the conveniency of tuition, and much more to its ſucceſs. The principal advantages will ſpring from the foundation—the diſcipline and the manners of the children, which can ſcarcely fail to be eſtabliſhed by ſuch arrangements; theſe are of the utmoſt conſequence, tho too generally neglected. The ſyſtem does not ſtrike me as perfect; it will undoubtedly admit of conſiderable improvements; but, were there much more room for theſe, I ſhould think the adoption of ſuch a ſyſtem far preferable to that chance medley of education which continues to be borne with, almoſt throughout the continent—and I do moſt heartily wiſh to ſee ſuch wiſe examples followed, wherever ſome plan of the kind has not already been adopted."

Laſt Thurſday arrived in this City from North-Carolina the Hon. SAMUEL JOHNSTON, Senator of the United States from that Republic.

Hon. BENJAMIN HAWKINS, the other Senator arrived ſome days ſince.

ADVERTISEMENT.

☞ *At the Auction Room of Meſſrs* SMITH *and* BRADFORD, *No. 20, Wall Street, will be diſpoſed of, at public ſale, on* Friday Evening *the 5th of February, a large and very valuable aſſortment of* BOOKS—*conſiſting of Hiſtory, Divinity, Law, Phyſic, Poetry, Novels, Miſcellany, &c. &c.——Catalogues will be delivered a few days previous to the ſale.*

New-York, Jan. 1790.

NOTIFICATION.

ALL perſons who have not accounted for the expenditures of public money and ſtores, received from HUGH HUGHES, either in the capacity of Commiſſary of Military Stores, Aſſiſtant and Deputy Quarter Maſter General to the army of the United States, or Deputy Quarter Maſter for the State of New-York, &c. or Deputy Quarter Maſter to the Eaſtern and Main Army, are requeſted, by the ſaid Hughes, to exhibit their accounts and vouchers, properly ſtated, as early as poſſible, to the auditor of the Treaſury of the United States, in the city of New-York, that a final ſettlement of the ſame may be made.

The Executors, or Adminiſtrators, to the eſtates of any of the perſons firſt mentioned, will be pleaſed to attend to this notification.

N. B. *The Printers in the different States in the Union, will render an eſſential ſervice to the public by inſerting this in their newſpapers.*

WAR-OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES.

INFORMATION is hereby given to all the Invalid Penſioners of the United States, reſiding within the States reſpectively, that one moiety of their aunual penſion, commencing on the fifth day of March laſt, will be paid at the places and by the perſons herein after mentioned, on the fifth day of March enſuing, and that the ſecond moiety of the ſaid annual penſion will be paid at the ſame places and by the ſame perſons, on the fifth day of June enſuing.

The States,	*Places,*	*and perſons by whom the penſions will be paid.*
New-Hampſhire,	Portſmouth,	Joſeph Whipple.
Maſſachuſetts,	Boſton,	Benjamin Lincoln.
Rhode-Iſland,	Providence,	Jeremiah Olney.
Connecticut,	New-London,	Jedidiah Huntington.
New-York,	New-York,	John Lamb.
New-Jerſey,	Perth-Amboy,	John Halſted.
Pennſylvania,	Philadelphia,	Sharp Delany.
Delaware,	Wilmington,	George Buſh.
Maryland,	Baltimore,	Otho H. Williams,
Virginia,	B. Hundred,	William Heth,
North-Carolina,	Hilliſborough,	John Haywood.
South-Carollna,	Charleſton,	George Abbott Hall.
Georgia,	Savannah,	John Haberſham.

January the 28th, 1790.

By order of the Preſident of the United States.

H. KNOX,

Secretary for the Department of War.

IN order to prevent unſucceſsful applications, the following information is re publiſhed, reſpecting the vouchers which will be required.

"THE returns which have been or ſhall be made to the Secretary for the Department of War by the ſeveral States of the penſions which have been granted, and paid by them reſpectively will together with the vouchers herein required, be conſidered as the evidence whereon the payments are to be made.

Every application for payment muſt be accompanied by the following vouchers.

1ſt. The certificate given by the ſtate ſpecifying that the perſon poſſeſſing it, is in fact an invalid, and aſcertaining the ſum to which as ſuch he is annually entitled.

2dly. An affidavit agreeably to the following form: to wit—A. B. came before me one of the Juſtices for the county of in the ſtate of and made oath that he is the ſame A. B. to whom the original certificate in his poſſeſſion was given, of which the following is a copy (the certificate given by the ſtate to be recited.)

That he ſerved in (regiment or veſſel) at the time he was diſabled, and that he now reſides in the and county of and has reſided there for the laſt years, previous to which he reſided in

In caſe an Invalid ſhould apply for payment by an attorney, the ſaid attorney muſt, beſides the certificate and oath before recited, produce a ſpecial letter of attorney agreeable to the following form,

I A. B. of county of ſtate of do hereby conſtitute and appoint C. D. of my lawful attorney to receive in my behalf of (the firſt or ſecond moiety) of my annual penſion, as an Invalid of the United States, from the fourth day of March, One thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-nine.

In teſtimony whereof I have hereunto ſet my hand and ſeal, this

Signed and ſealed
in the preſence of

Acknowledged before me

Applications of executors or adminiſtrators muſt be accompanied with legal evidence of their reſpective offices, and alſo of the time the Invalid died, whoſe penſion they may claim.

By Command of the Preſident of the United States of America.

H. KNOX,

Secretary for the Department of War,

War-Office, October 13. 1789.

☞ *The Printers throughout the United States are requeſted to inſert the above information, for the benefit of the unfortunate invalids, who have ſuffered ſeverely in the cauſe of their country.*

REPORT

Of the SECRETARY of the TREASURY to the HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Jan.* 9, 1790.

[CONTINUATION.]

BUT though many of the original holders sold from neceſſity, it does not follow, that this was the caſe with all of them. It may well be ſuppoſed, that ſome of them did it either through want of confidence in an eventual proviſion, or from the allurements of ſome profitable ſpeculation. How ſhall theſe different claſſes be diſcriminated from each other? How ſhall it be aſcertained, in any caſe, that the money, which the original holder obtained for his ſecurity, was not more beneficial to him, than if he had held it to the preſent time, to avail himſelf of the proviſion which ſhall be made? How ſhall it be known, whether if the purchaſer had employed his money in ſome other way, he would not be in a better ſituation, than by having applied it in the purchaſe of ſecurities, though he ſhould now receive their full amount? And if neither of theſe things can be known, how ſhall it be determined whether a diſcrimination, independent of the breach of contract, would not do a real injury to purchaſers; and if it included a compenſation to the primitive proprietors, would not give them an advantage, to which they had no equitable pretenſion.

It may well be imagined, alſo, that there are not wanting inſtances, in which individuals, urged by a preſent neceſſity, parted with the ſecurities received by them from the public, and ſhortly after replaced them with others, as an indemnity for their firſt loſs. Shall they be deprived of the indemnity which they have endeavored to ſecure by ſo provident an arrangement?

Queſtions of this ſort, on a cloſe inſpection, multiply themſelves without end, and demonſtrate the injuſtice of a diſcrimination, even on the moſt ſubtle calculations of equity, abſtracted from the obligation of contract.

The difficulties too of regulating the details of a plan for that purpoſe, which would have even the ſemblance of equity, would be found immenſe. It may well be doubted whether they would not be inſurmountable, and replete with ſuch abſurd, as well as inequitable conſequences, as to diſguſt even the propoſers of the meaſure.

As a ſpecimen of its capricious operation, it will be ſufficient to notice the effect it would have upon two perſons, who may be ſuppoſed two years ago to have purchaſed, each, ſecurities at three ſhillings in the pound, and one of them to retain thoſe bought by him, till the diſcrimination ſhould take place; the other to have parted with thoſe bought by him, within a month paſt, at nine ſhillings. The former, who had had moſt confidence in the government, would in this caſe only receive at the rate of three ſhillings and the intereſt; while the latter, who had had leſs confidence would receive *for what coſt him the ſame money* at the rate of nine ſhillings, and his repreſentative, *ſtanding in his place*, would be entitled to a like rate.

The impolicy of a diſcrimination reſults from two conſiderations; one, that it proceeds upon a principle deſtructive of that *quality* of the public debt, or the ſtock of the nation, which is eſſential to its capacity for anſwering the purpoſes of money—that is the *ſecurity* of *transfer*; the other, that as well on this account, as becauſe it includes a breach of faith, it renders property in the funds leſs valuable; conſequently induces lenders to demand a higher premium for what they lend, and produces every other inconvenience of a bad ſtate of public credit.

It will be perceived at firſt ſight, that the transferable quality of ſtock is eſſential to its operation as money, and that this depends on the idea of complete ſecurity to the transferree, and a firm perſuaſion, that no diſtinction can in any circumſtances be made between him and the original proprietor.

The precedent of an invaſion of this fundamental principle, would of courſe tend to deprive the community of an advantage, with which no temporary ſaving could bear the leaſt compariſon.

And it will as readily be perceived, that the ſame cauſe would operate a diminution of the value of ſtock in the hands of the firſt, as well as every other holder. The price, which any man, who ſhould incline to purchaſe, would be willing to give for it, would be in a compound ratio to the immediate profit it afforded, and to the chance of the continuance of his profit. If there was ſuppoſed to be any hazard of the latter, the riſk would be taken into the calculation, and either there would be no purchaſe at all, or it would be at a proportionably leſs price.

For this diminution of the value of ſtock, every perſon, who ſhould be about to lend to the government, would demand a compenſation; and would add to the actual difference, between the nominal and the market value, an equivalent for the chance of greater decreaſe; which, in a precarious ſtate of public credit, is always to be taken into the account.

Every compenſation of this ſort, it is evident, would be an abſolute loſs to the government.

In the preceding diſcuſſion of the impolicy of a diſcrimination, the injurious tendency of it to thoſe, who continue to be the holders of the ſecurities, they received from the government, has been explained. Nothing need be added, on this head, except that this is an additional and intereſting light, in which the injuſtice of the meaſure may be ſeen. It would not only diveſt preſent proprietors by purchaſe, of the rights they had acquired under the ſanction of public faith, but it would depreciate the property of the remaining original holders.

It is equally unneceſſary to add any thing to what has been already ſaid to demonſtrate the fatal influence, which the principle of diſcrimination would have on the public credit.

But there is ſtill a point in view in which it will appear perhaps even more exceptionable, than in either of the former. It would be repugnant to an expreſs proviſion of the conſtitution of the United States. This proviſion is, that "all debts contracted and engagements entered into before the adoption of that Conſtitution ſhall be as valid againſt the United States under it, as under the Confederation," which amounts to a conſtitutional ratification of the contracts reſpecting the debt, in the ſtate in which they exiſted under the confederation. And reſorting to that ſtandard, there can be no doubt, that the rights of aſſignees and original holders, muſt be conſidered as equal.

In exploding thus fully the principle of diſcrimination, the Secretary is happy in reflecting, that he is only the advocate of what has been already ſanctioned by the formal and expreſs authority of the government of the Union, in theſe emphatic terms—"The remaining claſs of creditors (ſay Congreſs in their circular addreſs to the States, of the 26th of April, 1783) is compoſed, partly of ſuch of our fellow citizens as originally lent to the public the uſe of their funds, or partly of thoſe, whoſe property has been either advanced or aſſumed for the public ſervice. To *diſcriminate* the merits of theſe ſeveral deſcriptions of creditors, would be a taſk equally unneceſſary and invidious. If the voice of humanity plead more loudly in favor of ſome than of others, the voice of policy, no leſs than of juſtice, pleads in favor of all. A WISE NATION will never permit thoſe who relieve the wants of their country, or who *rely moſt* on its *faith*, its *firmneſs*, and its *reſources*, when either of them is diſtruſted, to ſuffer by the event."

The Secretary, concluding that a diſcrimination, between the different claſſes of creditors of the United States, cannot with propriety be *made*, proceeds to examine whether a difference ought to be permitted to *remain* between them, and another deſcription of public creditors—Thoſe of the States individually.

The Secretary, after mature reflection on this point, entertains a full conviction, that an aſſumption of the debts of the particular States by the Union, and a like proviſion for them, as for thoſe of the Union, will be a meaſure of ſound policy and ſubſtantial juſtice.

It would, in the opinion of the Secretary, contribute, in an eminent degree, to an orderly, ſtable and ſatisfactory arrangement of the national finances.

Admitting, as ought to be the caſe, that a proviſion muſt be made in ſome way or other for the entire debt; it will follow, that no greater revenues will be required, whether that proviſion be made wholly by the United States, or partly by them, and partly by the States ſeparately.

The principal queſtion then muſt be, whether ſuch a proviſion cannot be more conveniently and effectually made by one general plan iſſuing from one authority, than by different plans originating in different authorities.

In the firſt place there can be no competition for reſources; in the laſt, there muſt be ſuch a competition. The conſequences of this, without the greateſt caution on both ſides, might be interfering regulations, and thence colliſion and confuſion. Particular branches of induſtry might alſo be oppreſſed by it. The moſt productive objects of revenue are not numerous. Either theſe muſt be wholly engroſſed by one ſide, which might leſſen the efficacy of the proviſions by the other: or both muſt have recourſe to the ſame objects in different modes, which might occaſion an accumulation upon them, beyond what they could properly bear. If this ſhould not happen, the caution requiſite to avoiding it, would prevent the revenue's deriving the full benefit of each object. The danger of interference and of exceſs would be apt to impoſe reſtraints very unfriendly to the complete command of thoſe reſources, which are the moſt convenient: and to compel the having recourſe to others, leſs eligible in themſelves, and leſs agreeable to the community.

The difficulty of an effectual command of the public reſources, in caſe of ſeparate proviſions for the debt, may be ſeen in another and perhaps more ſtriking light. It would naturally happen that different States, from local conſiderations, would in ſome inſtances have recourſe to different objects, in others, to the ſame objects, in different degrees, for procuring the funds of which they ſtood in need. It is eaſy to conceive how this diverſity would affect the aggregate revenue of the country. By the ſuppoſition, articles which yielded a full ſupply in ſome ſtates, would yield nothing, or an inſufficient product, in others. And hence the public revenue would not derive the full benefit of thoſe articles, from ſtate regulations. Neither could the deficiencies be made good by thoſe of the union. It is a proviſion of the national conſtitution, that "all duties, impoſts and exciſes, ſhall be uniform throughout the United States." And as the general government would be under a neceſſity from motives of policy, of paying regard to the duty, which may have been previouſly impoſed upon any article, though but in a ſingle ſtate, it would be conſtrained, either to refrain wholly from any further impoſition, upon ſuch article, where it had been already rated as high as was proper, or to confine itſelf to the difference between the exiſting rate, and what the article would reaſonably bear. Thus the pre-occupancy of an article by a ſingle ſtate, would tend to arreſt or abridge the impoſitions of the union on that article. And as it is ſuppoſeable, that a great variety of articles might be placed in this ſituation, by diſſimilar arrangements of the particular ſtates, it is evident, that the aggregate revenue of the country would be likely to be very materially contracted by the plan of ſeparate proviſions.

If all the public creditors receive their dues from one ſource, diſtributed with an equal hand, their intereſt will be the ſame. And having the ſame intereſts, they will unite in the ſupport of the fiſcal arrangements of the government: As theſe, too, can be made with more convenience, where there is no competition: Theſe circumſtances combined will inſure to the revenue laws a more ready and more ſatisfactory execution.

If on the contrary there are diſtinct proviſions, there will be diſtinct intereſts, drawing different ways. That union and concert of views, among the creditors, which in every government is of great importance to their ſecurity, and to that of public credit, will not only not exiſt, but will be likely to give place to mutual jealouſy and oppoſition And from this cauſe, the operation of the ſyſtems which may be adopted, both by the particular States, and by the Union, with relation to their reſpective debts, will be in danger of being counteracted.

There are ſeveral reaſons, which render it probable, that the ſituation of the ſtate creditors would be worſe, than that of the creditors of the Union, if there be not a national aſſumption of the State debts. Of theſe it will be ſufficient to mention two; one, that a principal branch of revenue is excluſively veſted in the Union; the other, that a ſtate muſt always be checked in the impoſition of taxes on articles of conſumption, from the want of power to extend the ſame regulation to the other States, and from the tendency of partial duties to injure its induſtry and commerce. Should the ſtate creditors ſtand upon a leſs eligible footing than the others, it is unnatural to expect they would ſee with pleaſure a proviſion for them. The influence which their diſſatisfaction might have, could not but operate injuriouſly, both for the creditors, and the credit, of the United States.

Hence it is even the intereſt of the creditors of the Union, that thoſe of the individual States ſhould be comprehended in a general proviſion. Any attempt to ſecure to the former either excluſive or peculiar advantages, would materially hazard their intereſts.

Neither would it be juſt, that one claſs of the public creditors ſhould be more favored than the other. The objects for which both deſcriptions of the debt were contracted, are in the main the ſame. Indeed a great part of the particular debts of the States has ariſen from aſſumptions by them on account of the Union. And it is moſt equitable, that there ſhould be the ſame meaſure of retribution for all.

There is an objection, however, to an aſſumption of the ſtate debts, which deſerves particular notice. It may be ſuppoſed, that it would increaſe the difficulty of an equitable ſettlement between them and the United States.

The principles of that ſettlement, whenever they ſhall be diſcuſſed, will require all the moderation and wiſdom of the government. In the opinion of the Secretary, that diſcuſſion, till further lights are obtained, would be premature.

All therefore which he would now think adviſeable on the point in queſtion, would be, that the amount of the debts aſſumed and provided for, ſhould be charged to the reſpective ſtates, to abide an eventual arrangement. This, the United States, as aſſignees to the creditors, would have an indiſputable right to do.

But as it might be a ſatisfaction to the Houſe to have before them ſome plan for the liquidation of accounts between the union and its members, which, including the aſſumption of the ſtate debts, would conſiſt with equity: The Secretary will ſubmit in this place ſuch thoughts on the ſubject, as have occured to his own mind, or been ſuggeſted to him, moſt compatible, in his judgment, with the end propoſed.

Let each ſtate be charged with all the money advanced to it out of the treaſury of the United States, liquidated according to the ſpecie value, at the time of each advance, with intereſt at ſix per cent.

Let it alſo be charged with the amount, in ſpecie value, of all its ſecurities which ſhall be aſſumed, with the intereſt upon them to the time, when intereſt ſhall become payable by the United States.

Let it be credited for all monies paid and articles furniſhed to the United States, and for all other expenditures during the war, either towards general or particular defence, whether authorized, or unauthorized by the United States; the whole liquidated to ſpecie value, and bearing an intereſt of ſix per cent. from the ſeveral times at which the ſeveral payments, advances and expenditures accrued.

And let all ſums of continental money now in the treaſuries of the reſpective ſtates, which ſhall be paid into the treaſury of the United States, be credited at ſpecie value.

Upon a ſtatement of the accounts according to theſe principles, there can be little doubt, that balances would appear in favor of all the States, againſt the United States.

To equalize the contributions of the ſtates, let each be then charged with its proportion of the aggregate of thoſe balances, according to ſome equitable ratio, to be deviſed for that purpoſe.

If the contributions ſhould be found diſproportionate, the reſult of this adjuſtment would be, that ſome ſtates would be creditors, ſome debtors to the union.

Should this be the caſe, as it will be attended with leſs inconvenience for the United States, to have to pay balances to, than to receive them from the particular ſtates, it may perhaps, be practicable to effect the former by a ſecond proceſs, in the nature of a transfer of the amount of the debts of debtor ſtates, to the credit of creditor ſtates, obſerving the ratio by which the firſt apportionment ſhall have been made. This, whilſt it would deſtroy the balances due from the former, would increaſe thoſe due to the latter. Theſe to be provided for by the United States, at a reaſonable intereſt, but not to be transferable.

The expediency of this ſecond proceſs muſt depend on a knowledge of the reſult of the firſt. If the inequalities ſhould be too great, the arrangement may be impracticable, without unduly increaſing the debt of the United States. But it is not likely, that this would be the caſe. It is alſo to be remarked, that though this ſecond proceſs might not, upon the principle of apportionment, bring the thing to the point aimed at, yet it may approach ſo nearly to it, as to avoid eſſentially the embarraſſment, of having conſiderable balances to collect from any of the ſtates.

The whole of this arrangement to be under the ſuperintendence of commiſſioners, veſted with equitable diſcretion, and final authority.

The operation of the plan is exemplified in the ſchedule A.

SPECULATION.

Says JOE to JEM, this ſpeculation,
Will prove the ruin of the nation.
Gods! that theſe fellows thus ſhould thrive,
When you and I can ſcarcely live.

Says JEM to JOE, this ſpeculation,
Has ſav'd the *credit* of the nation;
For when fate ſtop'd the new emiſſion,
Their caſh preſerv'd us from perdition.

ANECDOTE.

SOON after the commencement of the peace, the Maſter of an American veſſel, in London, fell in company with ſome ſharpers, who urged him very much to join them in drinking a bottle or two of porter. He, not aware of their policy, conſented to go to a public houſe; where, after they had all drank very freely, they dropt off, one by one, till at laſt the Yankee was left quite alone. The innkeeper coming in, ſays to him,—"What! are you left alone?"—"Yes," replied the other. The innkeeper obſerved to him, that he ſuppoſed he was not much acquainted with "our Engliſh blades." "I am not," replied the American. "Well," ſaid the innkeeper, "the reckoning falls on you."—"Does it!" replied the other, affecting ſurprize, and clapping his hand into his pocket as if to pay it—but, pauſing, he ſays, "Well, if this be the caſe, give me another bottle before I go." The innkeeper ſtepped out to get it. In the mean time the AMERICAN wrote upon the table—"I leave you AMERICAN HANDLES for your ENGLISH BLADES"—and walked off in his turn.

This day publiſhed,

THE *REPORT* of the SECRETARY of the TREASURY to the Houſe of Repreſentatives, relative to a proviſion for the ſupport of the Public Credit of the United States, in conformity to a reſolution of the twenty-firſt of Sept. 1789.

Publiſhed by authority.

Printed by FRANCIS CHILDS, *and* JOHN SWAINE—*and ſold at their Office, No.* 190, *Water-Street; ſold alſo by* Berry *and* Rogers.

New-York, Jan. 1790.

WILLIAM TAYLOR,

Has for Sale, at his EAST-INDIA GOODS STORE, No. 4, BURLING-SLIP,

A General Aſſortment of EAST-INDIA GOODS.

Among which are the following Articles:

BOOK Muſlins 8-4 6-4 5-4	HUMHUMS,
Jackonet do.	Long Cloths,
Hankerchiefs, of various kinds,	Caſſas,
Chintzes,	Seerſuckers,
Ginghams,	Boglapores.

A Variety of handſome painted MUSLINS.

With many other Articles, which will be ſold by the Piece or Package, low for caſh.

And a few pair large handſome Cotton COUNTERPANES, much warmer than Blankets.

JANUARY 9, 1790. t. f.

BOSTON STAGE.

THE ſubſcriber informs the public, that having contracted to carry the public mail in the ſtage from New-York to Boſton, for the year 1790—commencing January the firſt to go twice a week till the firſt of May, and three times a week from firſt May to firſt November, and to employ a perſon to go thro' with the mail to take Care of it. He engages that this *conductor* ſhall tranſact all private buſineſs committed to him with fidelity at a reaſonable Commiſſion—he will carry bundles, money, newſpapers, &c. And may be ſeen every Wedneſday and Saturday Evening in New-York, at Fraunces Tavern, in Boſton at the ſubſcribers Houſe, in Hartford at Frederick Bull's, Coffee Houſe.

Four active men are now engaged as Conductors, who have given bonds for the faithful diſcharge of their truſt.

January, 1790. LEVI PEASE.

☞ *The Boſton, Albany, and Philadelphia Stages now put up at Fraunces' Tavern, Cortlandt-Street, where paſſengers will pleaſe to apply.*

ADVERTISEMENT.

☞ *THE Gazette of the United States circulates in every part of the Union—being honored by ſubſcribers in Georgia, South and North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennſylvania, New-Jerſey, New-York, Connecticut, Rhode-Iſland, Maſſachuſetts, New-Hampſhire, and Diſtrict of Maine, Canada, Europe, and the Weſt Indies. This extenſive circulation renders it a proper vehicle for* ADVERTISEMENTS *of a general, commercial and governmental import:—By the particular deſire and advice, therefore, of a number of its patrons, this paper will be open for the reception of advertiſements of the above deſcription; which as they will convey intelligence of an intereſting nature, the Editor hopes their inſertion will meet the approbation of his friends in general. Should the number at any time amount to more than a page in the Gazette, they will be given in a Supplement.* JOHN FENNO.

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